

## STATE OF MAINE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR 1 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0001

7 August 2013

Senate President Justin Alfond Office of the Senate President State House Augusta, ME 04333 Speaker of the House Mark Eves Office of the Speaker of the House State House Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Alfond and Speaker Eves:

I have learned that you do not intend to reconvene this month to approve the transportation bond so it can go before the people of Maine on the November ballot. It is critical that we move forward with all possible speed to start infrastructure projects and create good-paying jobs for Mainers.

LD 1095, "An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Improve Highways, Bridges and Multimodal Facilities," was submitted in March and received strong bipartisan support. At a public hearing on June 12 before the Appropriations Committee, the bond proposal got widespread support from the construction industry, government agencies and nonprofit organizations.

The \$100 million bond proposal, designed by the Department of Transportation, allows DOT to target specific projects for economic development throughout the state. Without a source of funding, DOT cannot plan for new projects or move forward with those already in the pipeline.

This bond proposal will jumpstart construction projects, create jobs and make strategic investments in our roads, bridges and other infrastructure. You have the opportunity this month to ensure the bond can get on the November ballot. If you do not act this month, the bond proposal will have to wait until June, 2014 to get on the ballot.

Support for this bond proposal is universal, and there is no need for further delay. In addition to the Associated General Contractors of Maine and the Maine Tourism Association, supporters include GrowSmart Maine and The Maine Center for Economic Policy.

I understand that you have other bond priorities that can wait until June, 2014. While those bonds can wait, the transportation bond cannot. The construction industry needs work now, and Mainers need jobs now. It would be nice if you would inform the Executive Branch of your intentions.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage Governor

